

Arizona: A Land of Many Communities

You are a member of a team of scientists that has been studying Arizona's biotic communities. You have been asked to create a visual display about one of Arizona's biotic communities for a group of middle school students who will be attending the International Science Fair. Most have never been to Arizona, and may hold many misconceptions about our area.

Your display should include images and information about:

Physical Features: topography, temperature range, precipitation, and elevation

Plant life: general description of the kinds of vegetation found in the biotic community as well as detailed information about at least two specific plants.

Wildlife: general description of the kinds of wildlife found in the biotic community along with detailed information about at least two animals.

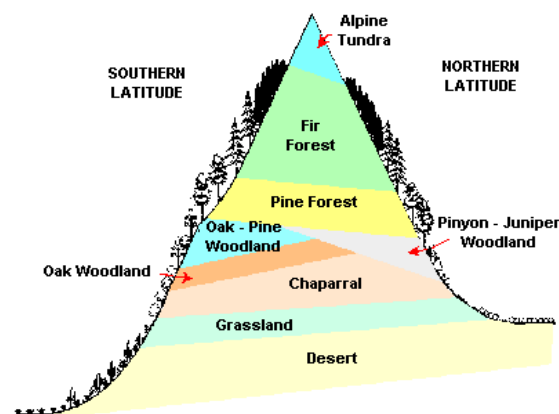
Changes over time: a discussion of the most critical recent changes in the area due to natural or human causes.

Individual Responsibilities

Each team member is responsible for one of the areas: physical features, plant life, wildlife, and changes over time.

Your display should include pictures of the biotic community and the plant and animal cards team members made.

Show your biotic community's location on a map.



Group score for display elements: labels, images, layout, and neatness.

Group Project Rubric

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Required Elements (INDIVIDUAL SCORE)	The report includes all required elements as well as additional information.	All required elements are included on the report.	All but 1 of the required elements are included on the report.	Several required elements were missing.
Labels (GROUP SCORE)	All items of importance are clearly labeled with labels that can be read from at least 3 ft. away.	Almost all items of importance are clearly labeled with labels that can be read from at least 3 ft. away.	Several items of importance are clearly labeled with labels that can be read from at least 3 ft. away.	Labels are too small to view OR no important items were labeled.
Attractiveness (GROUP SCORE)	The display is exceptionally attractive in terms of design, layout, and neatness.	The display is attractive in terms of design, layout and neatness.	The display is acceptably attractive though it may be a bit messy.	The display is distractingly messy or very poorly designed. It is not attractive.
Conventions (GROUP SCORE)	Spelling, grammar and punctuation are correct throughout the report.	There is 1 error in spelling, grammar or punctuation.	There are 2 errors in spelling, grammar or punctuation.	There are more than 2 errors in spelling, grammar or punctuation.